

Clark County Senior Staff Team meeting on Southern Nevada strategic planning
1/7/99

Attending: Dave Howekamp, Alexis Strauss, Julie Anderson, Keith Takata, Fraser Felter, Lois Grunwald

Air Issues: Dave briefly explained the current work being done by Harry Seraydarian to build bridges between Clark County Health Dept./Air Pollution Control Division and representatives of several environmental organizations in the Las Vegas Valley area. NDEP has repeatedly said it wants no involvement in Clark County air issues.

Water Issues: Alexis explained that water issues are very complex in the area, mainly due to a multiplicity of water servers, each demanding a place at the table whenever water issues are discussed with Clark County and the NDEP. Lake Mead water quality, wastewater capacity and sewage spills are all major water issues.

Solid/Hazardous Waste: Julie pointed out that the recently drafted Southern Nevada Strategic Planning Authority's recommendations to the State Legislature are silent on Solid and Hazardous Waste planning, i.e. Sunrise Landfill and Las Vegas Wash.

Superfund: Keith noted that other than the Kerr McGee-perchlorate problem, his Division has had fairly little to do with Clark County.

RA Briefing: It was noted that a special briefing on Clark County environmental issues was held for the RA on 9/22/98 and that little has changed since then.

SEA Meeting: At the 11/24/98 SEA meeting in Reno it was agreed that both EPA and NDEP would review the Strategic Planning Authority's recommendations, and after meeting together, would determine if there were resources either, or both, agencies could offer the Legislature.

Political Situation: It was noted that political factors are at play between some Legislators and the five city councils in the valley and the Clark County Commission. EPA must use care not to get caught up between the forces as they jockey for their positions in the planning for the area's future. It was agreed that the likelihood of anything substantive coming out of this year's Nevada Legislature is fairly remote. The Legislature won't meet again until 2001.

Action Items:

(1) Air, Water, Solid/Hazardous Waste and Superfund Divisions will review their briefing papers from the RA's meeting on 9/22/98 and compare them to the Strategic Planning Authority's recommendations.

(2) Each Division will compile a list of what actions they are engaged in in the Clark County area in 1999.

(3) A meeting will be scheduled with Allen Biaggi and his senior staff to compare the results of the above and chart a course of action at that time.

(4) A tour of Las Vegas Wash will be conducted Jan. 28, Mike Schulz has the details. We will check into the possibility of setting up a similar tour for EPA senior staff in early February and perhaps meet in Las Vegas with Allen Biaggi at that time.